

issued February 27, 1997 in Docket No. RM91-11-006 which established a five (5) maximum contract term among the permissible criteria for evaluating bids for available transportation capacity on interstate pipelines.

Granite State further states that its filing has been served on its firm transportation customers and on the regulatory commissions of the States of Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of Granite State's filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP80-556-001]

#### Great River Gas Company; Notice of Application To Amend Service Area Determination

September 12, 1997.

Take notice that on September 4, 1997, Great River Gas Company (Great River) filed an application to amend the authorization it received in Docket No. CP80-556-000 when it was granted a service area determination. Great River wants to amend its Section 7(f) service area determination by substituting the name of Atmos Energy Corporation (Atmos), in place of Great River, as the holder of the determination.

Great River explains that its Section 7(f) service area determination covers its operations as a public utility engaged in the sale, storage, and distribution of natural gas to customers in two contiguous, but unconnected, service areas in Iowa and Missouri. The determination order authorized Great River to construct a two-mile, 6-inch

pipeline interconnecting its separate facilities in Iowa and Missouri.

Great River states that on March 10, 1989, United Cities Gas Company (United Cities) acquired all the stock of Great River and assumed Great River's status in all FERC proceedings. Great River asserts that since 1989, its properties have been operated as part of a division of United Cities.

Great River relates that on July 31, 1997, United Cities and Atmos merged, and that the merged company bears the name Atmos Energy Corporation. Therefore, Great River would like its Section 7(f) service area determination amended to reflect the name of Atmos as the holder of the determination.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before September 25, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party in any proceeding herein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-331-007]

#### National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

September 12, 1997.

Take notice that on September 9, 1997, National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (National Fuel) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume No. 1, Original Sheet No. 12, to be effective November 1, 1997.

National Fuel states that the filing is made to implement a firm storage agreement between National Fuel and

Engage Energy U.S., L.P. (Engage), that provides for negotiated rates pursuant to GT&C Section 17.2 of National Fuel's tariff and the Commission's policy regarding negotiated rates. National Fuel states that under its agreement with Engage, firm storage service would be provided under its FSS Rate Schedule at a formula rate based upon the difference between the price of gas at Niagara, as published by Gas Daily, applicable at the time of injection, and such price applicable at the time of withdrawal. The specific formula is set forth in the agreement, which accompanies National Fuel's tariff filing.

National states that it is serving copies of the filing with its firm customers and interested state commissions. Copies are also being served on all interruptible customers as of the date of the filing.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with 18 CFR Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to this proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. DR97-5-000]

#### Northern States Power Company (MN and Subs); Notice of Filing

September 12, 1997.

Take notice that on August 19, 1997, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) and its subsidiaries tendered for filing the existing Exhibit IX specification of depreciation rates currently used as stated in Docket ER97-312-000 and its previous depreciation rates used as stated in Docket ER96-226-000.

NSP believes that previous revised exhibits submitted in Docket Nos. ER94-113-000, ER95-147-000, ER96-226-000, and ER97-312-000 satisfy the Commission's depreciation rate change filing requirements under Section 302 of